

AS SEEN BY A WASHINGTON WOMAN

THE POLYMURIEL IS HEARD FROM.

We had almost despaired of ever hearing from the universal gown—the beautiful, simple, durable, comfortable polymuriel for which a New York dress reform advocate offered a \$50 prize. But Rome wasn't built in a day, and so, seemingly, polymuriels cannot be designed over night. And after waiting a month or so impatiently and then almost forgetting that the universal dress had even been talked about we find that it has been realized and that the expectant world of womankind is soon to see the dreams of dress reformers at last come true.

And surely one would have to see it to get any idea of what it is like. For descriptions somehow in this case give us very little satisfaction. Perhaps, however, you can picture it from the description: "The under part is made in two pieces, opening down the front to the waistline for putting on. The smocking allows for fullness over the bust. The yoke, panel, belt and tunic are made in one piece, and are detachable for the purpose of reversing."

"The plain side, aided by attractive collar and cuffs, is suitable for business and ordinary wear. Reversed the under side can be braided in soutache or gold or some contrasting color, making a neat dressy costume for social and formal affairs. It can be made in almost any material. The length is left to the judgment of the wearer."

Do you like the idea of going about your office or your home clad in a simple, comfortable, durable frock the reverse side of which is elaborately trimmed with gold braid? And what is the idea of having this compressed, tabloid wardrobe any way? Are we to have no clothes presses in the future, no bureau drawers where we may keep the garments not in use? Apparently to the designer who invented the winning polymuriel there was great advantage in carrying one's entire wardrobe about with one all the time. Perhaps she lived in a Harlem flat.

Just imagine how simple life will be for the woman of the polymuriel. She can start forth to business with the plain side out of a black and rose colored edition of the universal gown. At 12 o'clock she is unexpectedly bitten to luncheon. In the old days she might have declined, feeling that her strictly business costume was inappropriate. But, presto! Off comes the business-like cuffs, leaving attractive short sleeves. Up goes the belt, leaving an empire effect. And off she goes to luncheon. Later in the afternoon she is persuaded to go to tea and for this occasion she simply detaches the collar, changing a becoming V-neck. After tea, dancing is in order, and then, presto—it takes but a minute. Off comes the flounce and, presto again, on goes a set of pantalettes that have been skillfully concealed somewhere in the folds of the gown, and no step is too intricate. Does any one bid the polymuriel lady go to dinner? The problem of dressing is in a nutshell. The underflounce, erstwhile tucked away in favor of the pantalettes, can be restored, this time on the outside. The panel and other trappings may be reversed and the rose-colored evening creation is revealed.

And there is a polymuriel hat, too, which—it is hard to imagine—can, by the manipulation of a few fastenings and snappers, be converted from an outing to a dress hat with several intermediate stages between. There is a band of ribbon for morning, a band of buckram for afternoon on which wide moire ribbon can be fastened, and for more festive occasions there are American Beauty roses and blueets to snap into place.

How long before the whole world of womankind will be clad in polymuriels?

MARY MARSHALL.

TOMORROW'S MENU.

"He pares his apple that will clean feed."—Herbert.

BREAKFAST.

Apple.
Cereal and Toast.
Dale Muffins.

LUNCHEON OR SUPPER.

Cream Spinach Soup.
Roast and Butter Baked Chicken.
Canned Peaches. Gingerbread.

DINNER.

Corn Soup.
Lamb Chops.
Lamb Stew.
Boiled Rice.
Rhine cherry Fruit Salad.
Charlotte Russe.

Date muffins: Cream a quarter of a cupful of sugar with the same amount of butter and add three-quarters of a cupful of milk, alternately with two cupfuls of flour sifted with half a teaspoonful of salt and three teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Then add a cupful of chopped dates, and bake in muffin pans.

Cream spinach soup: Put a cupful of spinach through a vegetable chopper. Mix it with half a cupful of water in which it was boiled, if that has been retained. Add a quart of milk. Rub together a tablespoonful of butter with the same amount of flour and thicken the soup with this. Season with pepper and salt and serve very hot.

Charlotte Russe: Moisten small sponge cakes with sherry or maraschino cherry juice, and cover with whipped cream.

A French scientist has invented a microscope using X-rays.

Janet Richards Reviews News Events of the Week

The popularity of Miss Richards' talks on current topics and the magnetic personality of the charming speaker herself were effectively demonstrated yesterday morning when a large audience assembled at the Woodward & Lothrop Auditorium for the weekly lecture which has become such an indispensable part of the culture courses offered to the women of Washington.

It was the first Monday after Christmas and the last Monday before the new year, which means for Washington a whirlwind dervish sort of week, with everything but society relegated to a convenient and accessible past. Yet, Miss Richards' lecture, though, for regular attendants brought their holiday visitors, and frequent waves of applause attested a thorough appreciation of the speaker's bon mots and clever, epigrammatic characterizations of foreign and domestic situations.

The talk of yesterday was of wide range, including comments on the progress of the great war abroad, the history of the Mexican political situation and an account of Miss Richards' own personal impressions of the Panama Canal. Foremost in her talk, Miss Richards called attention to the Pan-American Scientific Congress, which convened here yesterday: "an epoch-making congress," she called it, and directed discussion to the fact that for the first time in the history of pan-Americanism women will be assisting. Memorial Continental Hall is open for the sessions of the congress, and a woman's auxiliary has been formed to assist in the extensive social program

which will be a brilliant feature of the congress.

In discussing woman's part in current affairs, Miss Richards referred to the coming convention of the Woman's Peace Party early in January and urged the support of each one of her auditors to the work of peace. In contrast to the pacifist trend of her discourse, the speaker gave a brief resume of the political history of Mexico with its turbulent ideas of revolution and bloodshed and plunder, preparing for a later discussion when the Congressional investigation of the loss of American life in Mexico becomes a political fact.

The Panama Canal, that other tropical interest which attracts the eyes of America with the magnificence of its accomplishment, had a place in Miss Richards' lecture. She told of her visit to the canal on a stifling October day and of her impressions of the persistently baffling Culebra Cut.

"The word Culebra means serpent," said Miss Richards, "and seems to me peculiarly appropriate to that great cut whose sides are constantly moving masses of soft, slimy earth. There is something very venomous and crawling and suggestive of the serpent in the slithering of the wet clay, and I am sorry that it is to be called the Gallinero Cut, after that magnificent engineer who gave his life for the completion of the canal and whose name should be given some more worthy and steadfast monument."

Miss Richards' next lecture on Monday morning, January 2, will include a review of the European situation and a thoroughly domestic question: "The American Pork Barrel or the Budget: Which?"

HOUSEWIVES DAILY ECONOMY CALENDAR

By FRANCES MARSHALL.

HOUSEKEEPING AND THE SKIN.

The first thing to consider with reference to the skin is the skin while doing the work. Cold cream will do this, but it must be massaged well into the skin. After the dusting of the face with a simple powder such as talcum or rice starch. If after doing cooking the whole face is crimson, at once cool the face with cold water. The heated skin for fifteen minutes with hot water and a soft rag. This will reduce the inflammation, and if cold cream is used the face will be cooled and the danger of the skin taking on the hard brown look so common to the working housekeeper.

After all sweeping and dusting a complete face bath must be taken, with good soap, warm water and an after rinsing with some astringent. A good old-fashioned cold cream will do this. Cold cream and ten drops of benzoin oil, cold rinsing water give it the tonic shock needed after the warm bath. But when the face is very dusty and astringent—which indicates that the dirt is already trying to enter the pores—clean it with cold cream before using the soap and water. Massage this in carefully, then wash the face with cold water and dry it with a soft towel. After which use the first wash water quite hot and the soap in the form of a lather.

The juice of fresh cucumbers makes a simple bleacher for the skin, and it is also very healing. After the bath cover the face with a towel and apply the juice of cucumbers. Cucumbers ripe enough for eating are very juicy and should be cut into a paste and extract the juice by squeezing through a jelly bag. Melt the wax and spermaceti in a double boiler with slow fire and add the cucumber juice, stirring all the while with a silver fork or spoon till creamy; then put in the cucumber juice in the same way, and take care not to stir too much. The result is a cream of violet extract, putting this in drop by drop and with continued stirring. Never put cold cream on the face when it is warm, but immediately after the wash and see that it is worked well into the pores.

HOROSCOPE.

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

Tuesday, December 28, 1915.

Astrologers find this to be an important day, so far as the way of the planets is concerned. Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune are all strongly adverse.

It is a day in which bankers and all who handle money should be cautious. A run on some financial institution is indicated in one of the large cities. Brokers should be careful. The new year will bring many sensational changes in 'change and the death of men of world power in finance is prognosticated.

Foreign loans should be watched, the seers declare, for they believe that the war will be prolonged at least two years and they predict a startling condition in the world of money as well as the world of war.

Women should beware of the blandishments of men, while this configuration prevails. The stars are said to make even the greatest peculiarity susceptible and unreliable.

This is an unlucky time for ocean voyages. Wrecks are indicated and severe weather will increase horrors on the high seas.

While many predictions are gloomy at the end of the year, the most terrible war in all history, there is a brighter side, for a remarkable spiritual awakening and new ideals of life are foretold.

The recognition of a new leader of thought is prognosticated for 1916. Women come under a rule that in exceedingly important for the future. They will attain "an unexpected equality" in burden bearing, the seers declare.

Russia has the forecast of a series of terrible losses in the next few months. Great financial troubles menace Great Britain before the end of the new year, the seers believe.

Certain districts of the West come under a sway that indicates prosperity and growth. Montana and Idaho should benefit from this astral government.

Persons whose birthdate it is have the augury of possible quarrels and litigation. Travel and change are badly expected. Money should be safeguarded.

Children born on this day may be headstrong and quick-tempered. The subjects of Capricorn are often reckless in business affairs.

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FAMOUS WOMAN, HER BIRTHDAY AND YOURS

By MARY MARSHALL.

December 28—Elizabeth Stuart.

There is a royal patroness for December, the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I. of England. She was born at St. James' Palace, in 1635, two hours and eighty years ago, and although she lived only twenty years, she gained fame for a very remarkable intellect.

Her short life was not happy. When she was seven years old she was separated from her mother, who was betrothed to Prince William, of Holland, and her mother, who went with her sister to her new home. And at the same time she was parted from her father, and did not rejoin him for five years. When she was eight she suffered injury from an accident and for a long time she was confined to her room. Elizabeth, she turned her attention to her studies. She was already a great student; indeed it is said that before she was eight she could both read and write English, Greek, Latin, French and Italian. And when she was nine William Grenville dedicated a learned book to her because, he said, she could read and write in all three languages.

In the years of civil war in England, the young princess always held a gentle bearing toward her father's enemies, and for that reason was called "Temperance." She was devoted to her father, however, and never recovered from the effect of his execution. In 1659 she and her brother were removed to Carlisle castle, where her father had been imprisoned, and she died there of a fever a week later.

Grip Epidemic Continues.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—The grip epidemic in this city continues with few signs of abatement. More than 100 new cases, together with sixty-two of pneumonia, were reported by the hospitals today. Last week 84 persons died in this city, 300 more than during the same period last year. Of this total 26 deaths were due to grip.

DAILY FASHION HINT

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Among the out-of-town guests who attended the reception were Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Edmonston, of Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Wilson, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Brown, of New Bedford; the President's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilson, of Baltimore; and Mrs. Calvin Hendrick, of Baltimore.

Right Rev. Philip M. Rhinelander, bishop of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Rhinelander, whose visit to Washington is of particular social interest, are located at the Shoreham.

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Miss James R. Mann was hostess at a luncheon yesterday at her apartment in the Highlands in compliment to Mrs. Thomas B. Dunn.

Miss Zenaida Merriam entertained about fifty guests at a dance last evening at her home in Sixteenth street, in honor of Miss Katherine Corville, who will make her debut today, and Miss Dorothy Trout, daughter of Mrs. Harry G. Trout and the late Capt. Trout, U. S. A. Miss Trout reached Washington yesterday.

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Doings of Society

The Pan-American Building was the scene of a brilliant function of more than social interest last evening when the Secretary of State and the United States delegation to the second Pan-American Scientific Congress entertained at a reception in compliment to the members of the congress, who include the most distinguished men of the Americas. Many of the delegates are accompanied by their wives and daughters and the splendid gowns and superb jewels of the latter could find no more beautiful and appropriate setting than the Pan-American Building with its patios ablaze with rare tropical plants, its terraces and gardens and its grand rooms made festive with elaborate and beautiful floral decorations. The illumination of the famous Astor garden in the rear was an added touch to the charm and exotic beauty of the scene.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Lansing received the guests with Judge George Gray, chairman of the United States delegation. Mrs. Lansing wore a handsome gown of American Beauty velvet veiled in silver tulle. Mrs. Starnes, wife of the Ambassador of Chile, is president of the congress.

Mr. J. Wilson Howe, nephew of the President, and Mrs. Howe were here from Richmond, Va., to see Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Chatham, who are guests at the White House, and are stopping at the Willard.

Cards have been received in Washington for the marriage today of Miss Daisy Ethel Trowbridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Trowbridge, formerly of Washington, and Mr. Walter Kuhlmeier, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kuhlmeier, of Chicago. Miss Trowbridge will have her sister, Miss Agnes Cowell Trowbridge, for her maid of honor, and Miss Mary Shankland, of Germantown, Pa., as her bridesmaid. Mr. Kuhlmeier will be the best man, and Mr. Scott Trowbridge, brother of the bride, and Mr. Archibald Sayce, of Chicago, as groomsmen. The wedding will take place at the present home of the bride in Pittsburgh. Following the rehearsal last evening, Mr. and Mrs. Trowbridge entertained the bridal party and house guests at dinner at the Hotel Schenley.

Prominent arrivals at the Shoreham yesterday included Mr. Archibald Cary Coolidge, of Boston; Mr. W. E. Curtis and Mr. William S. Pritchard, both of New York.

The Georgetown Assembly entertained at the first dance of the season last evening at Linthicum Hall, which was decorated in compliment to the bride, Miss Edith Elkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery Blair. Mrs. Elkins had as her guests for the occasion Miss Emily May Holden and Mr. Elkins Oliphant.

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day from Honolulu, where she has been visiting. The drawing rooms were decorated in keeping with the Christmas season, and supper was served at midnight.

Mr. James L. Rodgers has arrived from Havana, Cuba, to pass several days, and is located at the Shoreham.

The tea at which Miss Edith Gracie entertained on Sunday afternoon was given in honor of Miss Dorothy Dennett, one of the season's debutantes.

The marriage of Miss Irma Wolff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Wolff, and Mr. Morton F. Leopold, of this city, took place yesterday at Stapleton, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Leopold will be at home after January 1 at the Sorrento apartment in this city.

Mr. J. Wilson Howe, nephew of the President, and Mrs. Howe were here from Richmond, Va., to see Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Chatham, who are guests at the White House, and are stopping at the Willard.

Cards have been received in Washington for the marriage today of Miss Daisy Ethel Trowbridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Trowbridge, formerly of Washington, and Mr. Walter Kuhlmeier, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kuhlmeier, of Chicago. Miss Trowbridge will have her sister, Miss Agnes Cowell Trowbridge, for her maid of honor, and Miss Mary Shankland, of Germantown, Pa., as her bridesmaid. Mr. Kuhlmeier will be the best man, and Mr. Scott Trowbridge, brother of the bride, and Mr. Archibald Sayce, of Chicago, as groomsmen. The wedding will take place at the present home of the bride in Pittsburgh. Following the rehearsal last evening, Mr. and Mrs. Trowbridge entertained the bridal party and house guests at dinner at the Hotel Schenley.

Prominent arrivals at the Shoreham yesterday included Mr. Archibald Cary Coolidge, of Boston; Mr. W. E. Curtis and Mr. William S. Pritchard, both of New York.

The Georgetown Assembly entertained at the first dance of the season last evening at Linthicum Hall, which was decorated in compliment to the bride, Miss Edith Elkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery Blair. Mrs. Elkins had as her guests for the occasion Miss Emily May Holden and Mr. Elkins Oliphant.

Mr. and Mrs. Wharton E. Lester entertained about three hundred guests at a dance last evening at the Shoreham in honor of their daughter, Miss Ruth Lester, who is one of the season's debutantes. A number of dinners preceded the party. Mr. and Mrs. Lester's Armistice entertained eight guests at dinner. Miss Louise Clark gave a dinner of ten covers, and Miss Katherine E. Effinger gave a dinner of sixteen covers, all taking the guests later to Miss Lester's dance.

The minister of Ecuador, Senor Don Gonzales Cordova, who has his legation established at New York, is here for the Pan-American Scientific Congress and has quarters at the Willard. Senor Don Joaquin Cordova and a younger son, accompanied the minister. Dr. Joaquin Casassa, ambassador of Mexico, and Senora Casassa and other interesting members of the Latin American colony new at the same hotel.